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The twenty-seventh annual report of the Peace and Arbitration Department of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union has just been issued by the devoted superintendent, Mrs. Hannah J. Bailey. Reports from the department superintendents in twenty of the States are included. Much valuable propaganda work has been carried on, including the distribution of literature, the giving of lectures, holding public meetings, and the promotion of peace work in the schools, clubs, and churches. Mrs. Bailey urgently recommends that the utmost influence be exerted to secure the election to Congress of those who will support peace measures and who will especially favor the limitation of armaments.

The American Peace Society of Japan held a meeting in Tokio on December 17, at which it decided to appoint a committee of fifteen Americans who reside in Japan to investigate and draw up a statement regarding the various questions of the relations between that country and the United States. The society especially desires to correct the reports of Japan's hostile intentions towards us.

The trustees of the Church Peace Union have issued the first of a series of papers in which the problems of peace and war will be considered from the religious point of view, and the church's message to the world will be emphasized. Dr. Charles E. Jefferson has written the first pamphlet, entitled "The Cause of the War." Others in the series will be: "The Midnight Cry," by Dr. David H. Greer; "The Way to Disarm," by Hamilton Holt; "The Church's Mission as to War and Peace," by Dr. Julius Remensnyder, etc.

At a meeting in St. Paul, under the joint auspices of the Minnesota Peace Society, the Women's Clubs of the city, and the Association of Commerce, Frau Rosika Schwimmer, of Hungary, made a stirring appeal to her hearers to use every influence in their power to stay the struggle in Europe and bring about a permanent peace. She warned Americans to check the growing demand for increased armaments in this country. A resolution embodying Frau Schwimmer's proposal was presented by Miss Ella Patterson, and adopted by the meeting.

The Canadian Peace Centenary Association has issued a program of Thanksgiving services, to be held in the Canadian churches on Sunday, February 14, commemorating the hundred years of peace between the British Empire and the United States. The pamphlet contains a brief historical statement, letters from various church leaders of Canada, suggestive programs for church and Sunday-school services, responsive readings, and hymns.

Brief Peace Notes.

... The British Council of Churches, which together with the German organization was doing such excellent work before the war to foster friendly relations between the two peoples, has issued a letter, signed by the Secretary, W. H. Dickinson, in which it is stated that their organ, *The Peacemaker*, has been discontinued for the present. The executive committee has decided that the council will have to refrain from all corporate action at the present time. The letter continues:

"During the clash of arms the voice of friendship can hardly be heard; but when the struggle is over the occasion may arise when it will be possible to repair the friendship which has been so grievously shattered and perhaps to base it on a more secure foundation. The Council's organization may then prove to be of great value, and with this view the committee consider that every effort should be made to keep it in being.

"The committee feel sure that every member of the British Council has witnessed with the most sincere grief the rupture between England and Germany. But the hope of better things must not be abandoned, and though the Associated Councils will have to wait, they may still look to a time when their peoples shall be reconciled and the true brotherhood of nations universally accepted."

... The Socialist peace conference, which was finally held at Copenhagen, Denmark, January 17-18, was very poorly attended, owing largely to the difficulties of travel, etc. Representatives of Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Holland, and Italy were present. Morris Hillquit, who was to have attended from the United States, was unable to go. The Danish Socialist leader, Mr. Stauning, presided. The aim of the conference was to devise means for ending the war and to influence the people of the neutral countries to exert themselves for a settlement which shall guarantee lasting peace. It is hoped soon to secure a general meeting of Socialists from all countries.

... One of our earnest and active peace workers, Mr. Isaac Mason, who has for twenty-three years been a missionary in West China, has just passed through this country on his return to his field of labor after a year's furlough in England. He has been liberated by his Board to devote more time to literary work in connection with the Christian Literature Society of Shanghai, China, and expects to give a large share of his attention to peace literature. He has already translated into Chinese Dr. Trueblood's "Federation of the World," and will have it published very soon. Mr. Mason hopes the time will soon be ripe for the starting of a China Peace Society similar to the Peace Society which is doing such active work in Japan.

... An important meeting of the Governing Board of the Pan-American Union, which is made up of the Secretary of State of this country and the diplomatic representatives of the Latin-American countries, was held on December 8 in the Pan-American building at Washington, D. C., to discuss questions of the rights of neutrals and other similar problems growing out of the present situation. The Board resolved to appoint a special commission of nine members, with the Secretary of State as chairman, to "study the problems presented by the present European war," and to "submit to the Governing Board the suggestions it may deem of common interest." The Commission consists of Mr. Bryan, the ambassadors from Brazil, Chile, and Argentina, and the ministers from Uruguay, Honduras, Peru, Ecuador, and Cuba. This Commission has asked all the Latin-American governments to present through their representatives any propositions they may wish to have considered, that all may have a chance to co-operate in securing measures that will improve existing conditions.

... Growing out of a desire that the Society of Friends should emphasize most strongly at the present crisis their testimony against war, and also protest against the concerted movement now being carried on in favor of greater preparedness for national defense, all

members of the Society of Friends were invited to meet in the Fourth and Arch street meeting-house, Philadelphia, on the afternoon and evening of December 30. More than a thousand persons were in attendance. The afternoon session was given to the practical side of the question. Isaac Sharpless, president of Haverford College, presided. Prof. William I. Hull, of Swarthmore College, explained the great armament program. Thomas Raeburn White, one of Philadelphia's able lawyers, gave the opposite ideal, showing that world peace is to be brought about only by limitation of armaments. At the evening session the addresses were largely of an inspirational character, and were given by Dr. O. Edward Janney, Agnes L. Tierney, and George M. Warner. They all agreed that the whole question is one of right and wrong, and that we can ally ourselves with neither party in the great conflict raging in Europe, but must maintain always the attitude of Him who brought a new gospel of peace and good-will to replace the ancient doctrine of hate and greed.

The following resolutions were adopted:

"Resolved, That we regard the present agitation for a general increase of the armed strength of the United States as unnecessary, untimely, illogical, and opposed to true patriotism.

"That we are in full accord with the international policy of the President, as expressed in his message to Congress on December 8, 1914, and urge all true citizens to uphold and strengthen his hands at this time of grave national responsibility, so as to further a policy of peace, justice, conciliation, and good-will as the truest safeguard of our national greatness, which will rest in the future, as it has rested in the past, upon a basis of moral strength rather than upon military and naval force."

... The model of the memorial to Elihu Burritt, in New Britain, Conn., has after some years been completed. The design and location have been selected and heartily approved by a commission from the American Sculpture Society. The New Britain committee, consisting of Mr. Marcus White, Mr. Charles F. Smith, and Mr. William F. Brooks, have approved the decision. It is believed that the memorial will be completed in about two years, when it is proposed to dedicate it with appropriate ceremonies.

... With the terrible disaster before us which now affects our neighbors in Europe by this awful war, a large meeting was held in the meeting-house of the Society of Friends in Stavanger, Norway, on the 8th of November, and the following resolution was unanimously agreed to:

"As it is Christ's emphatic message to all to love our fellow-men and try to forward the welfare and happiness of our fellow-workers, so it must also be a matter of course that we as Christians ought to make a strong protest and seriously rise up against all war, which is murder and bloodshed. It must, then, also be clear what the war preparations which go under the high-sounding name of 'FATHERLAND'S DEFENSE' have resulted in, viz: the present awful wholesale slaughter. We therefore in the name of Christianity—yes, and also in the name of all humanity—ought to seriously protest against this rough and barbarous system of rampant militarism, which causes the nations this terrible suffering. We ought as Christian people decidedly to refuse all dealing with the training in this military murderous practice, and we ought as State citizens seriously to counter-work against every government which countenances this system, and will use this as the means to settle disputes between the nations. Why has this dreadful butchering taken place? Because, of course, the governments of these States will not judiciously settle their disputes; but in their great blindness and heart-

lessness they have provided themselves with murderous weapons thereby to carry out their purpose.

"Therefore with the present awful suffering and need before us, which must shake every person who has a human heart, it must be our earnest appeal which all Christians and civilized people must agree to: *Down, down with arms!* What now is done with all this misery and want is a disgrace and dishonor to mankind. All civilized people should therefore emphatically protest against this cruel war system and as sensible people should exclaim, Forward, forward the rules of law and justice to settle people's disputes! and then it will also prove to be true what the Bible says: 'AND THE WORK OF RIGHTEOUSNESS SHALL BE PEACE AND THE EFFECT OF RIGHTEOUSNESS QUIETNESS AND ASSURANCE FOR EVER' (Is. 32:17)."

The above was proposed by the undersigned and unanimously carried after the recommendation of some Christians.

(Signed) T. SANDSTÖL,
Editor of the "*Fredsbaneret*" (Banner of Peace).

... Dr. Shailer Matthews and Dr. Sidney L. Gulick, who sailed on January 9 for Japan on an embassy of good-will from the churches of America, carried with them a remarkable letter to the churches in Japan. It is probably the first time in the history of the Protestant churches of this country that such a mission has been undertaken. It is a prophecy of an enduring national relationship among the churches.

... Rabbi Theodore F. Joseph, of Allentown, Pa., a most ardent champion of the cause of universal peace, known in his community as the "Father of the Social Center Movement," and founder of the Temple Brotherhood, has been appointed by the Governor of Pennsylvania a member of the American committee to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of peace among English-speaking peoples.

... In the *Nebraska State Journal* of January 10 there is an article by Prof. G. W. A. Luckey, Dean of the Graduate School of Education of the University of Nebraska, on "The Philosophy of Peace." Prof. Luckey was one of the delegates who attended the Nineteenth International Peace Congress at Geneva in 1912.

Field Department Notes.

DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

As usual, the Director has had to give considerable time to local conferences, which include the several meetings of the Actions Committee of the New York Peace Society and a special small conference called by Mr. John Hays Hammond. The Actions Committee has adopted a declaration of principles, and this, with a resolution which was prepared and presented by Mr. Andrew Carnegie, has been sent to all the members of the Society as well as to others, to indicate lines upon which the minds of thoughtful, competent people are working in view of the war and its possible termination.

Mr. Hammond's conference included several international lawyers, and it was voted to focus attention exclusively upon the question of an international court. A committee was appointed to take up this work, and there is every reason to believe, judging from the people who are in the movement, that the wisest and best thing will be done.

At a joint meeting of the Finance and Organization committees of the World Peace Foundation, held in